

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 01494 011419Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----115438 011420Z /43

O 011339Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0970  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 1494

EXDIS -- TREAT AS NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY AND SAUNDERS FROM LEWIS

CAIRO FOR AMBASSADOR AND FOR ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, XF, US  
SUBJECT: REPORT ON JANUARY 28 NEAR EAST CHIEFS OF MISSION  
CONFERENCE -- PEACE PROCESS

REF: JERUSALEM 0258 (STATE 024718)

1. ROY ATHERTON'S REPORT ON OUR CHIEFS OF MISSION  
CONFERENCE IS BOTH ACCURATE AND COMPREHENSIVE. IT  
GIVES OUR VIEWS AND CONCLUSIONS QUITE ACCURATELY FROM  
MY PERSPECTIVE.

2. THERE IS ONLY ONE POINT I WOULD LIKE TO AMPLIFY.  
IN PARA EIGHT OF REFTEL THERE IS A DISCUSSION OF THE  
PROBLEM OF HOW ONE APPLIES PRESSURE SUCCESSFULLY ON  
THE ISRAELIS AND IN PARTICULAR ON PRIME MINISTER BEGIN.  
SUBPARAGRAPH C OF THAT PARA DOES NOT DO ANY VIOLENCE

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TO WHAT I SAID, BUT IT LEAVES OUT ANOTHER THOUGHT WHICH  
I BELIEVE IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT. FROM OBSERVING  
BEGIN'S REACTIONS IN RECENT WEEKS, I HAVE BECOME MORE  
AND MORE CONVINCED THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE PRESSURE ON  
HIM IS HIS OWN INTERNAL PRECEPTION OF WHAT HE MUST DO  
TO MEET SADAT'S MINIMUM CONDITIONS. WHEN THE U.S.  
XPRESSES ITS DISPLEASURE WITH HIS ACTIONS, HE WORRIES

VERY MUCH ABOUT HIS PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PRESIDENT. BUT HE ASSUMES ALMOST UNCONSCIOUSLY THAT THERE ARE WAYS TO INFLUENCE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, CONGRESS AND PUBLIC WHICH PROVIDE SOME EFFECTIVE COUNTERMEASURES FOR THE U.S. PRESSURE. ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN HE BECOMES CONVINCED THAT HE MIGHT RISK LOSING THE CHANCE FOR PEACE WITH SADAT BECAUSE HE IS NOT MEETING SADAT'S MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS, HE HAS NO COMPARABLE CARDS TO PLAY TO COUNTER THIS EGYPTIAN PRESSURE. THIS IS NOT TO ARGUE THAT U.S. PRESSURE IS NOT AT SELECTED MOMENTS AND ON SELECTED ISSUES A VERY IMPORTANT COMPONENT IN HIS EQUATION. BUT WE SHOULD I THINK RECOGNIZE THAT THE ULTIMATE ISRAELI CALCULUS HERE RELATES TO WHAT HAS TO BE DONE TO MAKE PEACE WITH THE ARABS, AND PARTICULARLY THE ONE ARAB LEADER WHO HAS PERSUASIVELY DEMONSTRATED THAT HE INDEED IS PREPARED FOR PEACE.

LEWIS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PEACE, POLICIES, MISSION CHIEFS MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, CAT-B  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** REPORT ON JANUARY 28 NEAR EAST CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE -- PEACE PROCESS  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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